Applicant : J.H. Michaud et al.
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and

assign an action to an area corresponding to the non-transparent region, the action defining a function that will be activated when the area is selected.

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending. Claim 1 and 5 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

I. The §103 Rejections over Mapedit in view of CompuWorks

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-11, 13-20, and 22-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Mapedit Imagemap Editing Software ("Mapedit"), Version 2.3 for Windows 3.1, 1997 by Boutell.Com, Inc. URL: http://www.boutell.com/mapedit, in view of CompuWorks Labels ("CompuWorks"), Version 4.0.000, 1995 by John P. Osborn.

Claim 1 recites a method for creating electronic artwork with a hot area. The method includes receiving an electronic artwork having a plurality of layers, each layer having transparency information; receiving from a user an input selecting one of the plurality of layers; and identifying a non-transparent region of the selected layer, calculating a definition of an area corresponding to a boundary of the region, and assigning an action to the area, the action defining a function that is to be activated when the area is selected.

Mapedit does not teach or suggest receiving an electronic artwork having a plurality of layers, each layer having transparency information. Mapedit is a WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) editor for imagemap files. Mapedit teaches receiving a pre-existing image in GIF, JPEG or PNG format (Mapedit pg. 9, paragraph 4) and loading the image into a scrollable, resizeable window. The Mapedit system allows a user to draw polygons, circles and rectangles on top of the image and specify a URL for each (Mapedit pg. 8, paragraph 4). While the image can be the result of compositing several image layers together and exporting the composited image to the GIF, JPEG or PNG format, once the image is in the GIF, JPEG or PNG format, the original layer information is lost. Mapedit does not teach or suggest receiving artwork having layers, much less receiving a user input selecting a layer and identifying a non-transparent region of the selected layer. In addition, Mapedit is silent about calculating a definition of an area

corresponding to a boundary of the region because the user designates the size, shape and position of the hot spot.

CompuWorks does not teach or suggest receiving an electronic artwork having a plurality of layers, each layer having transparency information. The CompuWorks system allows a user to create a label having one or more objects. An object can be created and the properties (e.g., line color, fill color) of the object can be changed using the CompuWorks system (CompuWorks pg. 4). The CompuWork system also allows a user to move objects to the front, to the back, forward or backward (see, CompuWorks FIGURE 2 on pg. 2). CompuWorks allows for the manipulation of objects, not layers of an image. CompuWorks is silent about identifying a non-transparent region of a selected layer of the artwork. Furthermore, there is no need or motivation for CompuWorks to calculate a definition of an area corresponding to a boundary of the region because the properties of the objects in the CompuWorks system are known.

Neither Mapedit nor CompuWorks, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the method recited in claim 1. For at least these reasons, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-4, 10-11, and 13-18 incorporate the features of claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 5 is directed to a computer program comprising instructions for causing a computer to perform the method of claim 1. Specifically, claim 5 recites a computer program comprising instructions for causing a computer to "receive an electronic artwork having a plurality of layers, each layer having transparency information; receive from a user an input selecting one of the plurality of layers; identify a non-transparent region of a layer of an electronic artwork; and assign an action to an area corresponding to the non-transparent region, the action defining a function that will be activated when the area is selected".

Claim 5 is allowable for at least the same reasons set forth above in connection with claim 1. Claims 6-9, 19-20, and 21-27 incorporate the features of claim 5 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

II.   The §103 Rejections over Mapedit in view of CompuWorks and further in view of Carey

The Examiner has rejected claims 12 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Mapedit in view of CompuWorks, and further in view of Carey et al. (U.S. 5,977,978).

Claim 12 depends from claim 1 and is allowable for at least the reasons set forth above in connection with claim 1. Claim 21 depends from claim 5 and is allowable for at least the reasons set forth above in connection with claim 5. Combining the teachings of Mapedit, CompuWorks and Carey does not yield the method recited in claim 12, nor does it yield the computer program recited in claim 21.

III.   IDS Submitted July 15, 1999

The Examiner has indicated that the Macromedia reference cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed July 15, 1999, was not considered due to a missing copyright page. Submitted herewith is a page showing the publisher and copyright information. To complete our files, applicant asks the Examiner to consider this reference and return in the next communication a copy of the marked form PTO 1449 (copy enclosed).

IV.   Conclusion

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. Submitted herewith is the required fee for an Automatic Extension of time. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4\17\2000

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First Edition: May 1998
Macromedia, Inc.
600 Townsend St.
San Francisco, CA 94103
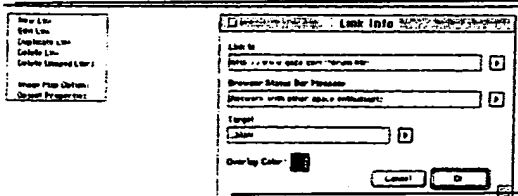
Linking an image map

Fireworks offers a convenient way for web designers to assign URLs to graphics. Use the familiar shape tools on the URLs toolbar to create hotspot regions with a specified link, status bar message, and target. Categorize links by assigning unique overlay colors. Generate image maps that are client-side, server-side, or both. In this lesson, create a client-side image map of a stylized solar system.

Open the Planets.png file and display the URLs toolbar.

1 Choose File > Open. In the Open File dialog box, navigate to the Tutorials folder within the Fireworks folder. Check Open as "Untitled," choose the Planets.png file, and click Open.

   This opens a graphic with a partially finished image map for http://www.gaze.com. If necessary, choose Window > Toolbars > URLs to display the URLs toolbar.

Use the URL Circle tool to create a URL object over a planet.

2 Choose the URL Circle tool. Choosing a tool on the URLs toolbar activates the URL overlay. Locate the planet with the word "Forum" on it. Hold down Alt (Windows) or Option (Macintosh), click at the center of the planet, and drag from the center to draw a circle covering the planet. Release the mouse before releasing Alt or Option.

   If necessary, use the cursor keys to nudge the URL object into place. Leave the object selected.

Assign a new link for the URL object created.

3 This circle defines the URL region linking the Forum planet to the current URL shown in the URLs toolbar. Choose New Link from the Options pop-up on the URLs toolbar to open the Link Info dialog box.

   In the Link to field, change the text to "http://www.gaze.com/forum.html." Type descriptive text in the Browser Status Bar Message field to provide information that displays in the browser window's status bar. Choose "-blank" from the Target pop-up.
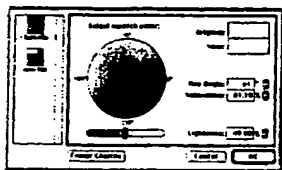
4 Click the Overlay Color color well in the Link Info dialog box. In the system color picker, choose a distinct color for this URL. Close the picker and click OK in the Link Info dialog box.

The Forum hotspot is now linked to "http://www.gaze.com/forum.html." Choose Select > None to deselect the object.

*Assign a distinct overlay color for the forum link using your system color picker.*
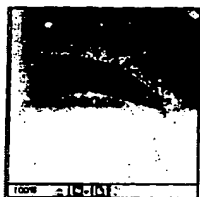
5 Choose the URL Polygon tool, and locate the planet with the words "StarGazer's Handbook." Click around the visible portion of the planet to draw a closed URL polygon. Assign a new link to the URL object by choosing "http://www.gaze.com/handbook.html" from the URL Link pop-up. Choose Select > None to deselect the object.

Use the URL Polygon tool to create an irregularly shaped URL object.
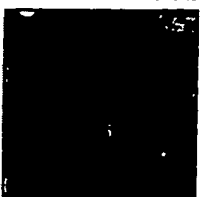
6 Click the Show/Hide URLs button on the URLs toolbar to deactivate the URL overlay. Choose the Pointer tool in the Toolbox and select the star partially behind the Events planet. Choose Select > Copy to URL. This creates a URL object that matches the shape of the original object.

Select an object in the file and choose the Copy to URL command to make a URL object.
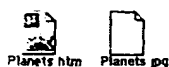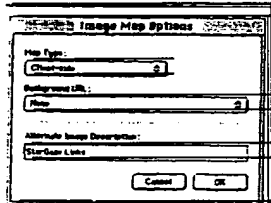
7 Choose Image Map Options from the Options pop-up on the URLs toolbar to display settings. Choose Client-side from the Map Type pop-up and choose None from the Background URL pop-up. In the Alternate Image Description field, type a description for the image map that appears if the image fails to appear in the browser. Click OK to close the dialog box.

Note: When exporting, check Generate HTML in the Export File dialog box to export both the image and the HTML file containing the image map.

Choose the type of image map you want to create before exporting. The Client-side option produces two files, an HTM and a JPG.

Creating an image map

An image map is a graphic with URLs assigned to hotspot regions of the graphic from within an HTML file. Clicking a hotspot in a web browser opens the web page to which the URL links. A well designed image map can add significantly to a web site's visual impact.

See the tutorial "Linking an image map" on page 50 for a step-by-step example of working with an image map.

Choosing a source graphic

A source graphic is the graphic over which an image map is laid. The graphic can be an Imported graphic or a graphic created in Fireworks. When choosing a graphic on which to build an image map, choose one with elements that people are likely to perceive as hotspots.

Creating a hotspot

A hotspot is an area of a graphic that is linked to a URL. When a hotspot is clicked, the web browser jumps to the web page specified by the linked URL. In Fireworks, define hotspots by creating URL objects.
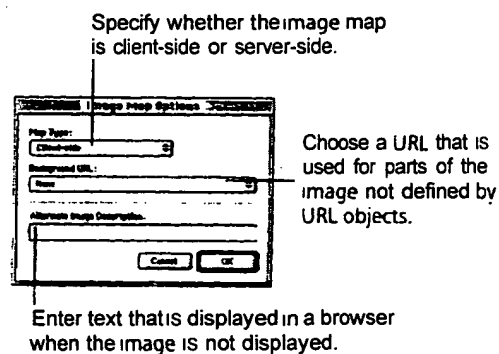
To create a hotspot (URL object):

1   Create or open a source graphic on which to place a hotspot.

2   Choose a URL basic shape tool from the URLs toolbar.

    Choosing a URL tool activates the URL overlay.

3   Create a hotspot region by dragging a URLs shape tool.

4   Choose New Link from the URLs toolbar Options pop-up.

    The Link Info dialog box opens.

5   Enter a URL to which the hotspot will link, enter a browser status bar message, and enter a target.

    Browser status bar messages and targets are optional.

8   Optionally, click the Overlay Color color well and choose an overlay color to organize hotspots by color.

7   Click OK in the Link Info dialog box.

Exporting an image map

When the image map is complete, choose Image Map Options from the URLs toolbar Options pop-up.

Specify whether the image map is client-side or server-side.

Choose a URL that is used for parts of the image not defined by URL objects.

Enter text that is displayed in a browser when the image is not displayed.

Client-side and server-side image maps

A client-side image map requires image map information to be stored within the HTML document. A client-side image map shows the actual URL in the status bar message at the bottom of the browser window.

A server-side (NCSA) image map requires the image map information to be saved within a separate file stored on a server and accessed by a CGI script. This type of image map is far more complicated to set up, and is not supported by all servers. Server-side image map behavior varies from system to system, even among different systems using the same server. A server-side image map shows the coordinates at the bottom of the screen.

Note: Contact your service provider to find out how your server handles server-side image maps.